

Application No.: 09/809,427Docket No.: 1509-152Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. *(currently amended)* A method of transferring data between a first communications device and a second communications device, using a plurality of other communications devices, the second communications device and the other communications devices having a first transceiver for communication at a first data rate over a long range, and a second transceiver for communicating at a second, higher data rate over a short range, the method comprising the steps of forming a co-ordinated short-range network using the second communications device and a the plurality of other-similar communications devices, transferring a portion of said data ~~to or from the first communications device from or to each of said second communications device and each of said other communications device using their~~ the first transceivers of the other communications devices, and transferring said data portions ~~between-received by said other communications devices and to~~ the second communications device using their the second transceivers of the other communications devices.

2. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~each of the second communications device and each of said other communications devices~~ is a mobile telecommunications device.

3. *(previously presented)* A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second data rate is

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higher than the first data rate by a factor of two or more.

4. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein each second transceiver operates in accordance with the wireless networking protocol IEEE802.

5. (*currently amended*) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first transceiver of ~~each of the~~ second communications device and each of said other communications devices is such as to communicate with the base station of a cellular telecommunications network, and wherein the first communications device is also arranged to communicate with the base station.

6. (*currently amended*) A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first communications device includes a server which is arranged to instruct the base station to transfer separate ~~respective~~ data portions to ~~each of~~ said second communications device and each of said other communications devices.

7. (original) A method as claimed in claim 6, further comprising the step of multiplexing said data portions at the second communications device.

8. (*currently amended*) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the server requests a stream of data from a data provider in packets, and the server instructs the ~~the~~ base station to route each data packet to a ~~respective~~ one of the second communications device and said other communications devices, the totality of the packets routed to a given second or other communications device constituting the data portion transferred to that communications device.

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9. (Canceled)

10. (original) A data transfer system comprising a first communications device and a plurality of second communications devices, each of the second communications devices having a first transceiver for communication with the first communications device at a first data rate over a long range, and a second transceiver for communicating with other second communications devices at a second, higher data rate over a short range, wherein means are provided for coordinating the second communications devices for transferring data to be communicated between the first communications device and a given second communications device so that a respective portion of said data is transferred between each of said second communications devices and the first communications device using the first transceivers of said second communications devices, and transferring said data portions between said second communications devices using their second transceivers.

11. (original) A system as claimed in claim 10, wherein each of the second communication devices is a mobile telecommunications device.

12. (previously presented) A system as claimed in claim 10, wherein the transceivers are such that the second data rate is higher than the first data rate by a factor of two or more.

13. (previously presented) A system as claimed in claim 10, wherein each second transceiver operates in accordance with the wireless networking protocol IEEE802.

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14. (previously presented) A system as claimed in claim 10, further comprising a base station of a cellular telecommunications network, the first transceivers of the second communications devices being arranged to communicate with the base station, and the first communications device being provided with a transceiver for communication with the base station.

15. (original) A system as claimed in claim 14, wherein the first communications device further comprises a server which is arranged to instruct the base station to transfer respective data portions to each of second communication devices.

16. (original) A system as claimed in claim 15, wherein a given second communications device comprises means for multiplexing all said data portions.

17. (original) A system as claimed in claim 15, further comprising a data provider for sending data to the server in packets, the server being such as to instruct the data provider to label each data packet for transmission by the base station a respective one of the second communications devices, the totality of the packets labeled for a given second communications device constituting the data portion transferred to that communications device.

18. (previously presented): A system as claimed in claim 10, wherein a given second communications device is arranged to transfer portions of data to be sent to the first communications device to each of a plurality of the other second communications devices by a means of its second transceiver and their second transceivers, the given second communications

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device being such as to instruct said other second communications devices to transmit said data portions to the first communications device, and such that the given second communications device transmits the remaining portion of the data to the first communications device.

19. (original)        A method of transferring bandwidth to and from a communications device having first and second transceivers, the first transceiver being a long-range, low data rate transceiver, and the second transceiver being a short-range, high data rate transceiver, the method comprising utilising the first and second transceivers of similar communications devices situated within a short range network served by the second transceivers of the communications devices, the data to be transferred to or from said communications device being transferred in portions between the communications devices using the second transceivers, and to and from a further communications device using the first transceivers of the communications devices.

20. (New)            A method of transferring data between a second communications device and a first communications device using a plurality of other communications devices, the second communications device and the other communications devices each having a first transceiver for communication at a first data rate over a long range, and a second transceiver for communicating at a second higher data rate over a short range, the method comprising the steps of forming a coordinated short range network using the second communications device and the plurality of other communications devices, transferring portions of said data from the second communications device to said other communications devices using the second transceivers of the other communications devices; and the second communications devices and the other communications devices transferring said data portions to the first communications device using

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the first transceivers of the other communications devices.

21. *(New)* A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the second communications device and each of said other communications devices is a mobile telecommunications device.

22. *(New)* A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the second data rate is higher than the first data rate by a factor of two or more.

23. *(New)* A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein each second transceiver operates in accordance with the wireless networking protocol IEEE802.

24. *(New)* A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the first transceiver of the second communications device and of each of said other communications devices is such as to communicate with the base station of a cellular telecommunications network, and wherein the first communications device is also arranged to communicate with the base station.

25. *(New)* A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein the second communications device transfers portions of data to be sent to the first communications device to each of the other communications devices by using its second transceiver and the second transceivers of the other communications devices, the second communications device instructs said other communications device to transmit said data portions to the first communications device, and the second communications device transmits the remaining portion of the data to the first communications

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device.

26. (*New*) A method of enabling a second communications device to receive data at a higher rate from a first communications device, the second communications device having a first transceiver for communicating a first data rate over a long range and a second transceiver for communicating at a second, higher, data rate over a short range, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining the addresses of other communications devices in a short range network with the second communications device and communicating with the second communications device by its second transceiver wherein said other communications devices are prepared to relay data between the first communications device and the second communications device;

notifying the first communications device of the addresses of the other communications devices, and requesting data to be provided to the other communications devices to be relayed to the second communications device; and

receiving portions of the data from the other communications devices and assembling the portions to form the requested data.

27. (*New*) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the step of requesting data further comprises requesting a portion of the data to be sent directly to the first transceiver of the second communications device.

28. (*New*) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the second communications device is a mobile telecommunications device.

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29. (New) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the second data rate is higher than the first data rate by a factor of two or more.

30. (New) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the second transceiver operates in accordance with the wireless networking protocol IEEE802.

31. (New) A method of enabling a second communications device to send data at a higher data rate to a first communications device, the second communications device having a first transceiver for communicating at a first data rate over a long range and a second transceiver for communicating at a second, higher, data rate over a short range, the method comprising the steps of:

determining that other communications devices that are (a) in a short-range network with the second communications device and (b) communicating with the second communications device by its second transceiver, are prepared to relay data between the first communications device and the second communications device;

sending portions of the data to said other communications devices such that each of the portions of the data are indicated to be for onward transmission to the first communications device.

32. (New) A method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the step of sending portions of the data further comprises sending a portion of the data to the first communications device through the first transceiver.



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33. (New) A method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the second communications device is a mobile telecommunications device.

34. (New) A method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the second data rate is higher than the first data rate by a factor of two or more.

35. (New) A method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the second transceiver operates in accordance with the wireless networking protocol IEEE802.

36. (New) A method of increasing the data rate from a first communications device to a second communications device, the method comprising:

the first communications device receiving a request for data from the second communications device, the request including addresses of a plurality of communications devices;

the first communications device dividing the data into a plurality of portions;

the first communications device sending respective portions of the data to each of the addresses identified in the request for onward transmission to the second communications device.

37. (New) A method of transferring data between a first communications device and a second communications device using a plurality of other communications devices, the second communications device having a first transceiver for communication at a first data rate over a long range, and a second transceiver for communicating at a second, higher data rate, over a

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short range, the method comprising the steps of: of forming a coordinated short-range network using the second communications device and the plurality of other communications devices, transferring a portion of said data to or from the first communications device from or to said second communications device and said other communications device using the first transceivers of the other communications devices and transferring said data portions between said other communications devices and the second communications devices using the second transceivers of the other communications devices, the first transceiver of each of the second communications device and each of said other communications devices is such as to communicate with the base station of a cellular telecommunications network, the first communications device also being arranged to communicate with the base station, the first communications device including a server which is arranged to instruct the base station to transfer respective data portions to each of said second communications device and said other communications devices, multiplexing said data portions at the second communications device, the server requesting a stream of data from a data provider in packets, and the server instructing the base station to route each data packet to a respective one of the second communications device and said other communications devices, the totality of the packets routed to a given second or other communications device constituting the data portion transferred to that communications device.